

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

A PROCLAMATION CONGRATULATING MR. JOHN BENSON UPON HIS RECOGNITION AS A GREAT PHILANTHROPIST

HON. ROBERT W. NEY

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 8, 2005

Mr. NEY. Mr. Speaker:

Whereas, John Benson was nominated by Dr. David Mitzel; and

Whereas, John Benson had an experience on Christmas morning in 1989 that touched him so deeply he helped establish the ABC Wilson Fund in memory of 3 children whose lives were senselessly lost; and

Whereas, John Benson has worked diligently with the help of others to make the ABC Wilson Fund an endowment that is saving lives across Muskingum County by providing smoke detectors to all in need.

Therefore, I join with family, friends and the entire 18th Congressional District of Ohio in congratulating John Benson and thanking him for his generosity to the people of Muskingum County.

IN HONOR AND MEMORY OF LANCE CORPORAL NORMAN WALLACE ANDERSON, III

HON. C.A. DUTCH RUPPERSBERGER

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 8, 2005

Mr. RUPPERSBERGER. Mr. Speaker, I humbly rise before you today to mourn the loss and to honor the life of a devoted United States Marine from Parkton, Maryland.

Lance Corporal Norman Wallace Anderson, III, died during active duty on the nineteenth day of October in the year 2005 while conducting combat operations against enemy forces in Karabilah, Iraq. Anderson was killed by a suicide vehicle-borne improvised explosive device.

Anderson, assigned to the 3rd Battalion, 6th Marine Regiment, 2d Marine Division, 2 Marine Expeditionary Force, Camp Lejeune, North Carolina, joined his division in June 2003 as a rifleman.

He returned to the States November of last year, and wed high school sweetheart, Victoria Worthing Anderson in August before continuing to active duty.

The Lance Corporal had aspirations of military life since he was a young boy. He dreamt of following in the footsteps of his father, Norman Wallace Anderson, Junior, a retired Army Ranger.

Anderson is remembered as a soldier who wished to serve his country so that his parents, his friends, and all of their families could keep their freedom.

A ceremony was held at Anderson's alma mater, Hereford High School, during a football

game on Friday, the twenty-first of October 2005 to honor the fallen soldier. Players wore Anderson's initials on their helmets and the school retired his number thirty-three jersey.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you join with me today to honor a man who proudly devoted his life to serving his country for the safety of his fellow citizens.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. HILDA L. SOLIS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 8, 2005

Ms. SOLIS. Mr. Speaker, during rollcall vote No. 570 on H. Con. Res. 260 I was unavoidably detained. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea."

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ADAM B. SCHIFF

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 8, 2005

Mr. SCHIFF. Mr. Speaker, on Friday, November 4, 2005 I was unavoidably detained and thus missed rollcall vote No. 569.

Had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on rollcall vote No. 569, in support of the conference report to accompany H.R. 3057, making appropriations for foreign operations, export financing, and related programs for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2006, and for other purposes.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. XAVIER BECERRA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 8, 2005

Mr. BECERRA. Mr. Speaker, on Friday, November 4, 2005, I was unable to cast my floor vote on rollcall No. 569. The vote I missed was on agreeing to the conference report for making appropriations for foreign operations, export financing, and related programs for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2006, and for other purposes.

Had I been present for the vote, I would have voted "yea" on rollcall 569.

TRIBUTE TO BOBBY GERALD

HON. JAMES E. CLYBURN

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 8, 2005

Mr. CLYBURN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a dedicated public servant who

has served the residents of Marion, South Carolina ably for more than 30 years. Mayor Bobby Gerald is a product of Marion County, and is a lifelong resident of the community he serves. His tremendous impact on his hometown reflects his enduring commitment to the city and its people.

Bobby Gerald has served a remarkable 20 years as Mayor of the City of Marion. His success in the political arena is no surprise given his talent as a businessman. At the tender age of 16, Bobby began selling cars for Neil Padgett Motors. After graduating from Marion High School, he joined the sales staff full time and went on to win every salesmanship award given by Ford Motor Company. His natural abilities and good business sense led him to become the General Manager and Executive Vice President of Earl Collins Ford Motor Company in 1967, just seven years after his high school graduation. In 1980, Bobby purchased the business, which he still runs successfully today.

Yet being a successful businessman was not enough for Bobby Gerald. He also felt a duty to serve his community, and in April 1975 he was appointed to the Marion County Board of Commissioners. He first won elective office in January 1977 as a member of the Marion County Council, where he served as Vice Chairman. Two years later, Bobby became Chairman of Marion County Council, a capacity in which he served until June 1982. At that time he was appointed by the Marion County Delegation to serve on the South Carolina State Highway Commission. In June 1985, he resigned that appointment after being elected the Mayor of the City of Marion, a position he has held ever since.

As Mayor of Marion, Bobby Gerald has led his city through difficult plant closures and the decline in tobacco farming. Yet his community has embraced its rich history and small town charm and become a tourist destination. Main Street has been revitalized with many family-owned antique shops and quaint boutiques, and a National Register Historic District has preserved and protected many of the homes, churches and other structures. I am proud to have worked with Bobby on the preservation of the old Marion High School, which is a crown jewel of this community.

In addition to his elected and appointed positions, Bobby Gerald has also been very active in community organizations. He is a member of the Jaycees, Mullins Rotary Club, Civitans, the Pee Dee Regional Council of Governments, and the S.C. Automobile Dealers Association. He has held several leadership positions within these organizations at the local and state levels. He has won numerous awards and citations including the American Hometown Leadership Award in 1999, the Public Service Award in 1996, the Marion Chamber of Commerce Community Service Award in 1995, and the Historic Marion Revitalization Association Board of Directors Award in 1995.

Bobby is in partnership with a lovely wife, Frances, and the couple has three children

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

and three grandchildren. They are members of the Marion Baptist Church.

Mr. Speaker, on November 21, 2005 I will sponsor a luncheon in Mayor Bobby Gerald's honor to say thanks for his many years of public service and personal friendship, and I ask you and my colleagues to join me in commending this longtime friend for his business acumen and dedicated commitment to public service. He is a natural leader, who has made extraordinary contributions to the City of Marion and the State of South Carolina.

A PROCLAMATION CONGRATULATING DR. WILLIAM C. LOFTY UPON HIS POSTHUMOUS RECOGNITION AS A GREAT PHILANTHROPIST

HON. ROBERT W. NEY

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 8, 2005

Mr. NEY. Mr. Speaker:

Whereas, Dr. William Loftly was nominated by Donnie Loubiere of the Belpre Area Community Development Foundation; and

Whereas, Dr. William Loftly was a man dedicated to his community, his church and his God; and

Whereas, Dr. William Loftly selflessly gave of himself to provide scholarship aid to local students and gave them an inspiring figure to look up to.

Therefore, I join with family, friends and the entire 18th Congressional District of Ohio in congratulating Dr. William Loftly and thanking him for his generosity to the community.

A TRIBUTE TO MS. NANCY DORAN

HON. C.A. DUTCH RUPPERSBERGER

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 8, 2005

Mr. RUPPERSBERGER. Mr. Speaker, I rise before you today to pay tribute to Ms. Nancy Doran who was awarded the 2005 Congressional Volunteer Recognition Award by the Second Congressional District of Maryland's Veterans Advisory Group.

It is with great pleasure that I bring before you a woman who has selflessly committed herself to helping lift the spirits of United States Veterans.

On Tuesday evenings for the past 3½ years, Ms. Doran and her dog Duffy perform voluntary pet therapy services at the Baltimore Veterans Affairs Rehabilitation and Extended Care Center.

Ms. Doran and her dog have made approximately one hundred eighty-eight visits so far, and stay for about 90 minutes each time; which is a tremendous act of kindness.

As a result of Duffy's presence, typically non-verbal veterans speak to Duffy while petting him and giving him treats. Duffy allows them to reminisce about their own dogs and gives them an opportunity to experience a pleasant evening of memories, friendship, and fellowship.

I believe this country should honor the service and sacrifices of those who place themselves in harms-way to protect the freedoms of the American citizens. The Veterans Advisory Group provides an excellent opportunity

for me to share pending legislation with people who have done just that, as well as, gain their perspective on specialized issues.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you join with me, and the Veterans Advisory Group to commend Ms. Nancy Doran for her efforts to visit with and care for the United States Veterans. She has gone above and beyond to aid those who have dedicated their lives to service our great country.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. HILDA L. SOLIS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 8, 2005

Ms. SOLIS. Mr. Speaker, during rollcall vote No. 571 on H.R. 1973, I was unavoidably detained.

Had I been present, I would have voted "yea".

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ADAM B. SCHIFF

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 8, 2005

Mr. SCHIFF. Mr. Speaker, on Thursday, November 3, 2005 I was unavoidably detained thus missed rollcall vote No. 568.

Had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on rollcall vote No. 568, in support of H.R. 4128, the "Private Property Rights Protection Act"—legislation that I voted in support of in the House Judiciary Committee.

A PROCLAMATION CONGRATULATING MRS. VERDA C. JONES UPON HER RECOGNITION AS A GREAT PHILANTHROPIST

HON. ROBERT W. NEY

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 8, 2005

Mr. NEY. Mr. Speaker:

Whereas, Verda Jones was nominated by Ms. Susan Urano of the Athens Foundation; and

Whereas, Verda Jones saw what the potential of the goodwill from a few dedicated citizens could lead to; and

Whereas, Verda Jones inspired many to contribute to what would eventually become the Athens Foundation, an endowment for the benefit of Athens.

Therefore, I join with family, friends and the entire 18th Congressional District of Ohio in congratulating Mrs. Verda C. Jones and thanking her for her generosity to the Athens community.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. XAVIER BECERRA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 8, 2005

Mr. BECERRA. Mr. Speaker, on Monday, November 7, 2005, I was unable to cast my floor vote on rollcall Nos. 570, 571, and 572.

The votes I missed included a motion to suspend the rules and agree to Recognizing the 40th anniversary of the Second Vatican Council's Declaration on the Relation of the Church to Non-Christian Religions, Nostra Aetate, and the continuing need for mutual interreligious respect and dialogue; a motion to suspend the rules and agree to the Senator Paul Simon Water for the Poor Act; and a motion to suspend the rules and agree to Supporting the goals and ideals of National Ovarian Cancer Awareness Month.

Had I been present for the votes, I would have voted "aye" on rollcall votes Nos. 570, 571, and 572.

TRIBUTE TO LT. COLONEL ALBERT B. GUESS

HON. JAMES E. CLYBURN

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 8, 2005

Mr. CLYBURN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a decorated war veteran and committed community activist. Lt. Colonel Albert B. Guess says his greatest ambition is "the utilization of his resources, knowledge and experiences to promote the well being and welfare of others." I believe he has achieved this goal in every facet of his life.

Albert B. Guess was born in Santee, South Carolina to farming parents. As a young man, he enlisted in the U.S. Army in 1943, serving for 3 years until his discharge as a Corporal. Colonel Guess used the G.I. Bill to attend South Carolina State University, and joined the college's ROTC program. His early life on the farm led him to earn a Bachelor of Science degree in Agriculture, and upon graduation he was commissioned as a Second Lieutenant.

After college, Colonel Guess taught agriculture, mathematics and science at Barr Street High School in Lancaster, South Carolina. At the same time, he served as the Director of the area veterans and adult farm program that taught hands-on farming practices and management.

Colonel Guess was recalled to the Army in May 1951, where he served another 20 years. His military career took him to New Guinea, the Philippine Islands, Japan, Korea, Alaska, and he served 2 tours in Vietnam. He earned many awards and decorations for meritorious actions and service including the Combat Infantryman's Badge. Colonel officially retired from active duty in June 1971 as a Lt. Colonel.

After leaving the military, Colonel Guess returned to South Carolina and his wife's hometown of Marion. There he became very active in the community, and that is how I first met him. He served as President of the Marion County Branch of the NAACP, and was instrumental in negotiating the majority-minority single member districts for the Marion City Council and the Marion County Council. He also led numerous voter registration and voter participation drives.

Colonel Guess has also been very active in Marion School District One. He has served as a hearing officer helping to represent the interest of parents and children in the district. He has been deeply involved in ensuring that the

schools in the district are top quality, and was instrumental in the building of the new Marion High School. Colonel Guess served on the steering committee for a bond referendum to pay for the construction of a new intermediate school and additions to Easterling Primary and Johnakin Middle School.

He has still found time to serve on the Marion County Economic Development Board, the Marion County United Way, and to direct the Marion-Dillon County Mental Retardation Program. Colonel Guess is currently the Chairman of the Marion County Red Cross.

He and his wife, the former Reba General are members of St. Phillips United Methodist Church. The couple has 2 children, Ronald Richardson of Marion and Rita James of Charlotte, North Carolina, and four grandchildren.

Mr. Speaker, on November 21, 2005 I will sponsor a Luncheon in honor of Lt. Colonel Albert Guess and I ask you and my colleagues to join me in commending this long-time friend and mentor for exceeding his life's ambition to serve others. He has served his family, his community, and his country with extraordinary dedication, and has been a positive impact on countless lives along the way.

A PROCLAMATION CONGRATULATING MR. STEVE VINCENT UPON HIS RECOGNITION AS A GREAT PHILANTHROPIST

HON. ROBERT W. NEY

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 8, 2005

Mr. NEY. Mr. Speaker:

Whereas, Steve Vincent was nominated by Dr. David Mitzel; and

Whereas, Steve Vincent had an experience on Christmas morning in 1989 that touched him so deeply he helped establish the ABC Wilson Fund in memory of 3 children whose lives were senselessly lost; and

Whereas, Steve Vincent has worked diligently with the help of others to make the ABC Wilson Fund an endowment that is saving lives across Muskingum County by providing smoke detectors to all in need.

Therefore, I join with family, friends and the entire 18th Congressional District of Ohio in congratulating Steve Vincent and thanking him for his generosity to the people of Muskingum County.

RELIGIOUS SPEECH LIMITATIONS IN SWEDEN

HON. CHRISTOPHER H. SMITH

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 8, 2005

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, freedom of thought, conscience, religion or belief is a fundamental element of international human rights norms. It is inextricably intertwined with other fundamental rights, including the rights to freedom of speech, freedom of association and freedom of assembly. Considering this, I am increasingly concerned by European trends to place limitations on religious speech under the guise of preventing offense or limiting hate speech. One such case con-

cerns Ake Green, the pastor of a Pentecostal church in Kalmar, Sweden, who was sentenced to 1 month in prison for "inciting hatred" against homosexuals.

Pastor Green's troubles began on July 20, 2003, when he expressed his disapproval of homosexuality in a sermon, founded upon his understanding of the Bible. He did not incite nor encourage his congregation on the small southeastern island of Oland to violence. He did, however, express his personal opinion of homosexuality and made a personal moral judgment that the lifestyle was sinful. He later circulated the sermon text to media outlets in an attempt to insert an alternative view into Sweden's "marketplace of ideas."

When prosecutors saw the sermon printed, they brought charges against Pastor Green for "inciting hate" toward homosexuals. A district court agreed in June 2004, finding his sermon to be criminal. One particularly alarming quote from the district court's decision stated, "It is forbidden to use the Bible or similar material to threaten or express disrespect for homosexuals as a group." Mr. Speaker, should pastors really be sent to jail for sermons that a court deems "disrespectful" or "offensive"? Should the state really dictate how a religious leader interprets the Bible, the Torah, or other religious texts? The district court's ruling raises the question of whether ministers and priests in Sweden are really free to preach their beliefs.

I recognize that the right to freedom of expression is not absolute and not all speech is protected. After 9/11 and the Madrid and London bombings, we have all seen how criminals abuse religion to preach violence and lead others in criminal deeds. Authorities are within their rights to take legal action to curtail the speech when it rises to the level of posing an imminent threat of actual criminal action. The international community and the European Court of Human Rights have recognized this high threshold for limiting speech activity. Yet we must be careful to not limit religious liberties and speech rights.

Thankfully, Pastor Green has not spent a night in jail while his case is on appeal. Also encouraging was the February decision by an appellate court to overturn the conviction, saying it is not illegal to preach a personal interpretation of the Bible. However, Sweden's chief prosecutor, Fredrik Wersaell, appealed to the Supreme Court, contending that Green violated Sweden's 2003 hate crimes law. The Supreme Court will hear the appeal on November 9th.

Undoubtedly, Swedes enjoy tremendous religious freedoms and generally Sweden is a staunch defender of human rights. However, in this case, the government has sought to limit basic religious teachings. I believe the criminalization of the use of the Bible to express beliefs, if not overturned, will have frighteningly broad ramifications for the free practice of religion in Sweden and beyond.

ACWA BLUEPRINT

HON. GEORGE RADANOVICH

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 8, 2005

Mr. RADANOVICH. Mr. Speaker, this year the water districts of my State worked together

to create a water planning document to address my State's core water infrastructure needs for decades into the future.

This document, released by the Association of California Water Agencies (ACWA), is called, "No Time to Waste: A Blueprint for California's Water." It lays out a diverse mix of actions and investments designed to help California meet its water supply needs in the coming decades.

The ACWA Blueprint is intended to serve as a roadmap for State and Federal leaders to follow to ensure that California has the water supply system it will need to support people, jobs and ecosystems in the future.

It breaks down into 12 recommendations for each region of the State. These include investments to improve water supplies, water use efficiency, water quality and environmental health. The recommended actions are designed to address short and long-term statewide water needs, complement and build on local efforts, and promote integrated regional water management plans that will play a critical role in California's future.

KEY RECOMMENDATIONS IN ACWA'S BLUEPRINT

Improve the existing Sacramento-San Joaquin River Delta water conveyance system to increase flexibility and enhance water supply, water quality, levee stability and environmental protection in the near term.

Evaluate long-term threats to the Delta levee and conveyance system and pursue actions to reduce risks to the state's water supply and the environment.

Ensure delivery of adequate Colorado River supplies for Southern California and defend California's rights on the Colorado River.

Implement and fund the Sacramento Valley Water Management Program.

Develop additional groundwater and surface water storage, including proposed surface storage projects now under study if they are determined to be feasible.

Support and fund local efforts to expand recycled water use and implement best management practices for urban and agricultural water use efficiency.

Improve the quality of California's drinking water supplies to safeguard public health and enhance water quality for agriculture and the environment.

Work with local agencies to overcome constraints to developing seawater and brackish groundwater desalination.

Modernize the Federal Endangered Species Act and other laws and regulations to allow water infrastructure projects, water supply and water quality activities to proceed while protecting species and habitats.

Expedite the approval process for voluntary water transfers.

Clarify and expand the State's role in flood control and promote multi-benefit flood control projects.

Support integrated regional water management plans.

Mr. Speaker, this document represents the first time California water users have produced something this comprehensive, based around a consensus approach and done under their own initiative. Water will be a central resource challenge confronting economic growth and environmental sustainability in California and the West. As the House Water and Power Subcommittee completes its agenda for 2005 and sets new objectives for 2006, I commend to interested observers ACWA's "No Time to Waste: A Blueprint for California's Water".

A TRIBUTE TO MR. CLIFFORD L.
STOFFEL

HON. C.A. DUTCH RUPPERSBERGER

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 8, 2005

Mr. RUPPERSBERGER. Mr. Speaker, I rise before you today to pay tribute to Mr. Clifford L. Stoffel who was awarded the 2005 Congressional Volunteer Recognition Award by the Second Congressional District of Maryland's Veterans Advisory Group.

It is with great pleasure that I bring before you a man who has selflessly committed himself as a volunteer driver and as the Coordinator for the Transportation Section at the Glen Burnie Clinic for Veterans.

In the past six years, Mr. Stoffel has driven 41,986 miles to take patients to and from scheduled and emergency doctor appointments. The veterans have come to rely on him when other drivers cancel or when they forget to request a driver. He is always willing to assist them, ensuring that those in need of a ride to the nearest veteran facility, will have transportation.

Because of Mr. Stoffel's generosity, approximately 2,258 patients have had reliable transportation when necessary. His generosity is recognized as an example of dedication amongst veteran volunteers.

I believe this country should honor the service and sacrifices of those who place themselves in harm's way to protect the freedoms of the American citizens. The Veterans Advisory Group provides an excellent opportunity for me to share pending legislation with people who have done just that, as well as, gain their perspective on specialized issues.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you join with me, and the Veterans Advisory Group to commend the efforts of Mr. Clifford L. Stoffel in his kindness and willingness to help others. He has gone above and beyond to aid those who have dedicated their lives to serve our great country.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. HILDA L. SOLIS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 8, 2005

Ms. SOLIS. Mr. Speaker, during rollcall vote No. 572 on H. Res. 444, I was unavoidably detained. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea."

A PROCLAMATION THANKING
LANCE CORPORAL HICKORY
OGLE OF THE UNITED STATES
MARINE CORPS FOR HIS SERVICE
TO THE UNITED STATES

HON. ROBERT W. NEY

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 8, 2005

Mr. NEY. Mr. Speaker:

Whereas, Lance Cpl. Hickory Ogle served with the 1st Platoon, Lima Company, 3rd Battalion, 25th Marines, 4th Marine Division with honor, courage and commitment; and

Whereas, Lance Cpl. Hickory Ogle has continued in his family's proud footsteps of service and dedication to America; and

Whereas, Lance Cpl. Hickory Ogle has taken part in numerous offensive operations in Iraq, including Matador and Sword for the preservation of American liberty and freedom for the Iraqi people.

Therefore, I join with family, friends and the entire 18th Congressional District of Ohio in thanking Lance Corporal Hickory Ogle for his service to the United States and welcoming him home to an appreciative nation.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. MARK STEVEN KIRK

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 8, 2005

Mr. KIRK. Mr. Speaker, on Monday November 7, 2005 I missed the following votes: rollcall No. 570: H. Con Res. 260, "Recognizing the 40th anniversary of the Second Vatican Council's Declaration on the Relation of the Church to Non-Christian Religions"; rollcall No. 571: H.R. 1973, "Water for the Poor Act of 2005"; and rollcall No. 572: H. Res. 444, "Gynecological Resolution for Advancement of Ovarian Cancer Education." Had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on rollcall No. 570, rollcall No. 571, and rollcall No. 572.

RECOGNITION OF THE PMI GROUP

HON. ELLEN O. TAUSCHER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 8, 2005

Mrs. TAUSCHER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate The PMI Group's tenth anniversary as a publicly traded company. The PMI Group's company headquarters is located in Walnut Creek, California, which is in my district. Ten years ago when the company first went public it was the sixth-largest IPO in the New York Stock Exchange's history. In the past decade it has grown from one of the nation's leading providers of private mortgage insurance to a global provider of credit enhancement. PMI has helped to push homeownership rates to a historic high, while consistently providing a strong average return on shareholders' equity.

Founded over 30 years ago, The PMI Group, Inc., offers residential mortgage insurance and credit enhancement products that promote homeownership and facilitate mortgage transactions in domestic and international capital markets. Currently the company has over \$5.2 billion in total assets, serves two million families worldwide and has been recognized as one of the best places to work in the Bay Area of California.

Under the leadership of Chairman and CEO Roger Haughton, The PMI Group's mission is to put people in homes—and keep them there. They have been integral in helping low and moderate income families become homeowners by developing affordable mortgage programs that help them to realize their dreams of homeownership. Now with operations in Australia, New Zealand, Hong Kong and Europe they have taken that commitment

globally. The company's management is committed to the belief that homeownership helps build strong families, which in turn builds strong communities.

The company's commitment to facilitating homeownership goes beyond its fundamental business model to its relations with the communities in which it operates, exemplified in the generous spirit of their foundation. The PMI Foundation supports national and local organizations that create housing opportunities and revitalize neighborhoods. Most notably the company has been a part of building over 125 Habitat for Humanity homes worldwide. They have also led the business community in initiatives to reinvest in inner-city and rural communities. Most recently, PMI stepped up to the plate and contributed a \$2 million relief package for the victims of the Gulf Coast hurricanes.

I greatly appreciate everything The PMI Group, Inc. has done for the citizens of my district, as well as our citizens nationwide. Facilitating homeownership is an admirable business, so I ask my fellow Members of Congress to join me in congratulating The PMI Group on a very successful 10 years as a publicly traded company and I wish them many successful years to come.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JIM GIBBONS

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 8, 2005

Mr. GIBBONS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to explain how I would have voted on November 7, 2005 during rollcall vote Nos. 570, 571 and 572 during the first session of the 109th Congress. The first vote was on H. Con. Res. 260—Recognizing the 40th anniversary of the Second Vatican Council's Declaration of the Relation of the Church to Non-Christian Religions, the second vote was H.R. 1973—Water for the Poor Act of 2005, and the third vote, H. Res. 444—Gynecological Resolution for Advancement of Ovarian Cancer Education.

If present, I would have voted "yea" on these rollcall votes.

A PROCLAMATION CONGRATULATING
MRS. BONNY HUFFMAN
UPON HER RECOGNITION AS A
GREAT PHILANTHROPIST

HON. ROBERT W. NEY

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 8, 2005

Mr. NEY. Mr. Speaker:

Whereas, Bonny Huffman was nominated by Marianne Campbell, Board Chair of the Foundation for Appalachian Ohio; and

Whereas, Bonny Huffman has displayed a commitment to education, the Wellston City Schools, Junior Achievement, the United Fund, the Hope United Methodist Church and the Foundation for Appalachian Ohio; and

Whereas, Bonny Huffman is a blessing upon her community and has been a bottomless well of generosity for all those she meets.

Therefore, I join with family, friends and the entire 18th Congressional District of Ohio in

congratulating Mrs. Bonny Huffman and thanking her for many years of generosity to the community.

A TRIBUTE TO MR. JOHN FLUTKA

HON. C.A. DUTCH RUPPERSBERGER

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 8, 2005

Mr. RUPPERSBERGER. Mr. Speaker, I rise before you today to pay tribute to Mr. Flutka who was awarded the 2005 Congressional Volunteer Recognition Award by the Second Congressional District of Maryland's Veterans Advisory Group.

I am pleased to bring before you a man who has generously taken time to assist the Occupational Therapy Department of the Baltimore Veterans Rehabilitation and Extended Care Center.

Mr. Flutka, a veteran himself, updates forms used to evaluate and treat patients, resulting in better quality of care. He also organizes supply closets, making for quick and easy access to indispensable materials. By utilizing his diligence, staff members can swiftly remedy the veteran's vulnerabilities.

I believe this country should honor the service and sacrifices of those who place themselves in harm's way to protect the freedoms of the American citizens. The Veterans Advisory Group provides an excellent opportunity for me to share pending legislation with people who have done just that, as well as gain their perspective on specialized issues.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you join with me and the Veterans Advisory Group to commend Mr. John Flutka for his efforts in assisting the Occupational Therapy Department. He has gone above and beyond to aid those who have dedicated their lives to service our great country.

GYNECOLOGICAL RESOLUTION FOR ADVANCEMENT OF OVARIAN CANCER EDUCATION

SPEECH OF

HON. ROSA L. DeLAURO

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 7, 2005

Ms. DELAURO. Mr. Speaker, I want to thank my colleague from Texas for his leadership on this important issue. Nineteen years ago, I learned for myself the deadly toll ovarian cancer can take. Back then, I knew little about these diseases. But then I was diagnosed with ovarian cancer during an unrelated doctor's visit. I was fortunate to have excellent doctors who detected the cancer by accident in Stage 1 and underwent radiation treatment for the next two-and-a-half months. I am proud

to say that I have now been cancer-free for 19 years.

I was lucky—lucky that my life was given back to me. But of course, my life was changed at the same time. We all hope to see the day when cancer is prevented and no one has to go through what I and so many others have endured. When it comes to life and death, no one should have to depend on luck.

And frankly, we are asking 25,000 women a year to do just that. As we commemorate the first National Ovarian Cancer Awareness Month, we do so with the understanding that more than 25,000 women are diagnosed every year with ovarian cancer—1 out of every 57 women. 16,000 of those women will die simply because the disease is not detected until it has reached an advanced stage.

The tragedy of it all is that ovarian cancer can be cured if it is detected soon enough. When detected in the early stages, more than 94 percent of women survive longer than 5 years, and most are cured completely. The problem is simply that women have never had a reliable, accurate method of screening for ovarian cancer in the early stages.

But that may be changing. Today, researchers are on the cusp of a breakthrough, of giving real hope to women who might otherwise not be diagnosed until it is too late. And our investment in ovarian cancer research is paying dividends, which is why we must keep fighting to make sure that ovarian cancer grants at the National Institutes of Health are fully funded. With 25,000 lives on the line every year, we can ill afford any setbacks in our work to find potential screening tools and treatments for this deadly disease.

Mr. Speaker, providing hope to women across the country is what that investment is about—highlighting the need to make that hope a reality is what this resolution is about. It is my privilege to support it.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. LUIS V. GUTIERREZ

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 8, 2005

Mr. GUTIERREZ. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably absent from this Chamber November 7. I would like the record to show that, had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on rollcall votes Nos. 557 and 558.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. LINDA T. SÁNCHEZ

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 8, 2005

Ms. LINDA T. SÁNCHEZ of California. Mr. Speaker, today I was unavoidably detained in

District-related events and missed rollcall votes Nos. 570, 571 and 573. Had I been present, I would have voted:

"Yea" on rollcall No. 570, H. Con. Res. 260—A bill to recognize the 40th anniversary of the Second Vatican Council's Declaration on the Relation of the Church to Non-Christian Religions, *Nostra Aetate*, and the continuing need for mutual interreligious respect and dialogue,

"Yea" on rollcall No. 571, H.R. 1973—The "Water for the Poor Act of 2005," and

"Yea" on rollcall No. 572, H.R. 444—The "Gynecological Resolution for Advancement of Ovarian Cancer Education."

A PROCLAMATION IN MEMORY OF SPECIALIST RICHARD A. HARDY

HON. ROBERT W. NEY

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 8, 2005

Mr. NEY. Mr. Speaker: Whereas, Specialist Richard A. Hardy of A Company, 2nd Battalion, 69th Armor Regiment, 3rd Infantry Division, United States Army honorably and with courage fulfilled his duty to the United States of America; and

Whereas, Specialist Richard A. Hardy volunteered to serve his country and fought to secure freedom for an oppressed people and for the continued liberty we enjoy at home; and

Whereas, Specialist Richard A. Hardy gave the last full measure of devotion to his country amid the sands of Ar Ramadi, Iraq during Operation Iraqi Freedom.

While words cannot express our grief during the loss of such a courageous soldier, I offer this token of profound sympathy to the family, friends, and colleagues of Specialist Richard A. Hardy.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. RON LEWIS

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 8, 2005

Mr. LEWIS of Kentucky. Mr. Speaker, due to a personal family matter I was not available for votes on November 7, 2005. Had I been present I would have voted:

Roll Call:

No. 572 Supporting the goals and ideals of National Ovarian Cancer Awareness Month. "Yea". No. 571 Senator Paul Simon Water for the Poor Act "Yea". No. 570 Recognizing the 40th anniversary of the Second Vatican Council's Declaration on the Relation of the Church to Non-Christian Religions, *Nostra Aetate*, and the continuing need for mutual interreligious respect and dialogue. "Yea".

HONORING THE PAMELA B.
KATTEN LEUKEMIA RESEARCH
MEMORIAL FOUNDATION

HON. RAHM EMANUEL

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 8, 2005

Mr. EMANUEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge and honor the important work being conducted by the Pamela B. Katten Memorial Leukemia Research Foundation. The foundation was formed shortly after the tragic loss of Pamela Katten in 2002 as a result of Acute Myelogenous Leukemia. Its mission is to promote research into the diagnosis and treatment of leukemia.

Pam was born in 1961 and grew up on the North Side of Chicago and the northern suburbs. She attended Northwestern University before heading to the East Coast to begin a successful career in the New Jersey Attorney General's office.

In addition to all her success in the courtroom, Pam was a loving mother to her son Max, and a caring sister, daughter and friend to many who knew her. They will tell you about her infectious laughter, off-beat sense of humor and love for story-telling. Most of all, they remember Pam for her zest for life and unyielding desire to live each day fully.

On November 19, the third annual "Pam Jam" will take place in Northbrook, Illinois to honor her memory and announce the establishment of a "Pamela B. Katten Fellow" at the Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center to study stem cell proliferation.

Unfortunately, Pam and her family are not the only Americans that have had to wrestle with this devastating disease. There are over 640,000 people in this country alone who are fighting various blood cancers, including leukemia. Through the work of the foundation that Pam inspired and others like it, these families find hope.

Mr. Speaker, Pam's friends and family will never forget her glowing personality and daily joy for life. Her memory and her legacy are truly inspiring. I am proud of the work the Pamela B. Katten Memorial Leukemia Research Foundation has done, and I wish them the best in all of their endeavors.

A PROCLAMATION CONGRATULATING NICOLE DONANT FOR HAVING HER WISH GRANTED FOR ALL OF MINERAL CITY

HON. ROBERT W. NEY

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 8, 2005

Mr. NEY. Mr. Speaker:

Whereas, Nicole Donant started with a small project to help start a library in Mineral City to earn a merit badge; and

Whereas, Nicole Donant, through hard work and determination, turned her small project into a dream for the community of having a library in Mineral City and collected over 5000 books; and

Whereas, Nicole Donant is an inspiration to us all and is an embodiment of the compassionate, moral and socially responsible spirit of the youth in Ohio.

Therefore, I join with family, friends, the people of Mineral City and the entire 18th Congressional district of Ohio in congratulating Nicole Donant for her wish coming true.

IN HONOR OF RICK MARTINEZ

HON. DORIS O. MATSUI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 8, 2005

Ms. MATSUI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Rick Martinez, former chief of the Sacramento Metropolitan Fire District. Last month, Chief Martinez retired from a truly distinguished career of public service that spanned over thirty years. As his friends, family and colleagues all gather to celebrate his career, I ask all my colleagues to join me in honoring the dedicated service of one of Sacramento's finest citizens.

Chief Martinez began his career as a firefighter with the Sacramento City Fire Department in the early 1970s. He quickly rose through the ranks as a Captain, EMS Coordinator, Battalion Chief and later, Division Chief, each time taking on positions of increasing responsibility and leadership. In 1995 he was appointed Fire Chief of the American River Fire Protection District, which was the precursor to today's Sacramento Metropolitan Fire District (SMFD). He also served as chief of the Florin Road Fire Protection District and the Sacramento County Fire Protection District.

When the SMFD was formed in 2000, Rick was named the district's first chief. His management experience and expertise helped the district grow to serve over 600,000 citizens, spread over 417 square miles. He successfully managed 700 employees, over 40 fire stations and numerous other facilities, while also expanding specialized programs, such as the Urban Search and Rescue Task Force and the fire paramedic intern program.

One of Chief Martinez's many accomplishments with the SMFD has been the development of Sacramento's highly regarded Urban Search and Rescue Team. The team responded with great distinction to the 1995 Oklahoma City bombing. In 2001, as our nation came under attack, Chief Martinez was responsible for managing all search and rescue teams at the site of the World Trade Center in New York City. Most recently, he helped direct the response to Hurricane Katrina's devastation along the Gulf Coast.

The constant display of leadership and integrity has led Rick to be honored by many of his peers. In 2003, he was named Fire Chief of the Year by the California Fire Chief Association. Due to his crisis management experience he was tapped to serve as Chief Deputy Director of the California Office of Homeland Security by former Governor Gray Davis. In 2002, he was appointed to the State Board of Fire Services. Rick has also been active in numerous local boards and commissions.

The people of Sacramento, California and our nation have been lucky to have Rick Martinez on their side in emergencies ranging from traffic accidents to natural disasters, structure fires to terrorist attacks. He has always risen to the occasion and led with knowledge, experience and reliability. His leadership will surely be missed by many.

Mr. Speaker, I am honored to pay tribute to one of Sacramento's most distinguished citizens, Rick Martinez. His successes have been great, and it is a wonderful opportunity for me to recognize his contributions to the people of Sacramento. I ask all my colleagues to join me in wishing my friend, Rick Martinez, continued success in his future endeavors.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. LUCILLE ROYBAL-ALLARD

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 8, 2005

Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD. Mr. Speaker, due to the illness and passing of my father and his subsequent funeral, I was not present for rollcall votes 521 to 569 from October 17 to November 4, 2005.

Had I been present and voting I would have voted in the following manner:

Yea on rollcall 521, yea on rollcall 522, yea on rollcall 523, no on rollcall 524, yea on rollcall 525, yea on rollcall 526, yea on rollcall 527, yea on rollcall 528, no on rollcall 529, yea on rollcall 530, yea on rollcall 531, yea on rollcall 532, no on rollcall 533, no on rollcall 534, yea on rollcall 535, yea on rollcall 536, yea on rollcall 537, yea on rollcall 538, no on rollcall 539, yea on rollcall 540, no on rollcall 541, no on rollcall 542, no on rollcall 543, no on rollcall 544, no on rollcall 545, yea on rollcall 546, no on rollcall 547, no on rollcall 548, yea on rollcall 549, yea on rollcall 550, yea on rollcall 551, yea on rollcall 552, no on rollcall 553, and yea on rollcall 554, yea on rollcall 555, yea on rollcall 556, yea on rollcall 557, yea on rollcall 558, no on rollcall 559, yea on rollcall 560, yea on rollcall 561, no on rollcall 562, yea on rollcall 563, no on rollcall 564, no on rollcall 565, no on rollcall 566, no on rollcall 567, yea on rollcall 568, yea on rollcall 569.

A PROCLAMATION HONORING MARY AND JOSEPH L. DEGENOVA ON THEIR 25TH WEDDING ANNIVERSARY

HON. ROBERT W. NEY

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 8, 2005

Mr. NEY. Mr. Speaker:

Whereas, Mary and Joseph L. DeGenova are celebrating their 25th wedding anniversary; and

Whereas, Mary and Joseph L. DeGenova were united in marriage on October 18, 1980 in Bellaire, Ohio; and

Whereas, Mary and Joseph L. DeGenova are the loving parents of two children, Annemarie and Anthony.

Therefore, I join with the residents of the entire 18th Congressional District of Ohio in congratulating Mary and Joseph L. DeGenova as they celebrate their 25th Wedding Anniversary.

HONORING THE JACKSONVILLE
ROTARY CLUB

HON. JEB HENSARLING

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 8, 2005

Mr. HENSARLING. Mr. Speaker, today, I would like to commemorate two significant anniversaries of Rotary International. This year, Rotary International celebrated its 100th anniversary. From its humble roots in Chicago, Illinois, Rotary has grown into a worldwide organization of business and professional leaders who provide humanitarian service, encourage high ethical standards in all vocations, and help build goodwill and peace in the world. Since 1943, Rotary International has distributed more than \$1.1 billion to combat Polio, promote cultural exchanges and encourage community service.

I also want to recognize the Jacksonville Rotary Club for their 85 years of service to Cherokee County. Throughout its history, the Jacksonville Rotary Club has achieved great success in carrying out the mission of Rotary International.

The Jacksonville Rotary Club has benefited numerous organizations and programs that serve the local community including the Anderson/Cherokee Crisis Center and the Jacksonville Literacy Council. The Ambassadorial Scholarship program has enabled local students to enrich their lives and further their education by helping them study abroad. Their valuable community service has also been seen through annual events such as the Pancake Supper, United Fund activities, support of Boy Scout Troop 407, and benefit golf tournaments.

Through these initiatives, the Jacksonville Rotary Club exemplifies the values of service and charity that lie at the heart of American society. As the Congressional representative of the members of this outstanding organization, it is my distinct pleasure to honor them today on the floor of the United States House of Representatives.

HONORING THE EMPLOYERS OF
OUR GUARD AND RESERVE BUT
MORE NEEDS TO BE DONE

HON. TOM LANTOS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 8, 2005

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to support this important resolution. When it comes to taking care of our citizen-soldiers, many employers have gone well beyond what the law requires. They make up any loss of income that an employee encounters when going on active duty, or they keep the soldier's family on the company health insurance, or they find other ways to ease an employee's separation from loved ones during activation. This bill is an excellent opportunity for Congress to thank these conscientious employers.

In particular, I would like to extend special gratitude to those employers who have taken it upon themselves to eliminate any pay gap that their employees encounter because their military salary is less than their civilian salary.

Thanks to the diligent efforts of the Employees Support for Guard and Reserve, nearly 1/3

of our activated citizen-soldiers have employers who eliminate that pay gap. Companies making such payments include IBM, Sears, General Motors, Home Depot, United Parcel Service and Ford Motor Company.

In addition, the governments of at least 30 states, including my home state of California, offer this differential pay for state employees who go on active duty.

Unfortunately, the Pentagon has prevented the Federal Government from following these conscientious employers and making up any pay gap encountered by Federal employees who have been activated in the Guard and Reserve.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to submit for the RECORD a wonderful article by Bob Barr that ran in the Washington Post highlighting the efforts of Senator DURBIN and other Members of Congress on this issue.

While I strongly support this resolution I also believe that what is good for the goose should be good for the gander, and that the time has come for the Federal Government, the largest single employer of the citizens who make up the Guard and Reserve—must match the example set by employers throughout this country and support our own citizen-soldier employees.

PRIVATE SECTOR SURPASSES AGENCIES ON PAY
TO DEPLOYED

(By Stephen Barr)

Wachovia Corp., the banking giant, Eaton Corp., an industrial manufacturer, and Enterprise Rent-a-Car keep their employees on full salary and benefits, regardless of military compensation, when they are called to active duty in the reserves and National Guard.

Other organizations also help out their reserve and Guard employees beyond the letter of the law. Citizens Financial Group Inc., the Los Angeles Police Department, Sears, Roebuck and Co., the state of Delaware and Toyota Motor Sales USA Inc. provide financial support to their employees, including a pay differential, for periods ranging from a year to the duration of the deployment.

The companies were among 15 recently honored by the Pentagon with the 2005 Secretary of Defense Employer Support Freedom Award, in recognition of their exceptional support of their Guard and reserve employees. The 15 companies went beyond the requirements of the 1994 Uniformed Services Employment and Reemployment Rights Act, which seeks to guarantee that workers have a comparable job waiting for them when they return from their military service.

The federal government, however, falls short of being a model employer in its treatment of civil service employees called to active duty. Although federal agencies comply with the law, the government does not make up the difference in pay when an employee is called to active military duty and receives a smaller salary.

David M. Walker, the head of the Government Accountability Office, attended the Freedom Award banquet Oct. 15 and later told a House committee that "the U.S. government is not leading by example or practicing what it preaches in connection with employer support for the Guard and reserves."

Walker, in his prepared statement, said the GAO and federal agencies are constrained by law and ought to have some leeway to ease salary shortfalls for Guard and reserve families.

"Federal agencies should be able to make up any salary differential that activated

Guard and reserve members might otherwise lose out of our annual appropriation," Walker said. "We would also like to be able to be sure that applicable employees and their family members continue to receive their employer-provided benefits."

There are about 1.13 million people in the Guard and reserves, and Rep. Tom Lantos (D-CA) and other members of Congress have estimated that about 40 percent of those called to active duty suffer a loss of income, putting mortgages and other obligations in jeopardy, because their military pay is less than they would have earned in their civilian jobs.

About 126,850 reservists are employed by federal agencies, and about 96,600 of them work for the Defense Department. Sen. Richard J. Durbin (D-IL) estimates that 17,000 federal employees have been mobilized to serve in Iraq, Afghanistan and other places.

The Senate has approved an amendment sponsored by Durbin that would require a federal employee's agency to pay the difference between a worker's reservist pay and federal civilian pay. More than 100 House members, organized by Lantos, have written to the House Appropriations Committee backing the Durbin amendment.

The amendment has been stripped out of bills during past House-Senate negotiations—what the senator calls "the darkness of a conference committee."

In general, Defense officials have opposed bills that would close the "pay gap" for some mobilized reservists because they believe it could cause morale problems. Officials have contended that all parts of the armed forces—active, Guard and reserves—should be compensated according to their performance of military duties under the existing military pay system.

The officials point out that federal employees who are mobilized may take a month of military leave each calendar year with differential pay and that a special category of federal employees, military technicians, can receive two months at full civilian salary. Federal agencies also may pick up health insurance costs for up to 24 months for their mobilized reservists.

Still, the House members said in their letter, "what is good for the goose should be good for the gander," suggesting that the government, as the largest employer of reservists, should be able to match the support offered by companies to ease financial burdens on employees called to serve.

A PROCLAMATION THANKING SPECIALIST RODNEY HENDERSHOT
FOR HIS SERVICE TO THE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

HON. ROBERT W. NEY

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 8, 2005

Mr. NEY. Mr. Speaker:

Whereas, Spc. Rodney Hendershot has served in the U.S. Army's Alpha company, 1st Battalion, 115th Infantry with loyalty, duty, respect, selflessness, honor, integrity and courage; and

Whereas, Spc. Rodney Hendershot volunteered to serve at a time of great unrest when America's values of freedom and liberty for all were challenged most; and

Whereas, Spc. Rodney Hendershot has fought for the freedom of the Iraqi people and the security of this great Nation.

Therefore, I join with family, friends and the entire 18th Congressional District of Ohio in

thanking Specialist Rodney Hendershot for his exemplary service.

IN HONOR OF THE UKRAINIAN
AMERICAN YOUTH ASSOCIATION

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 8, 2005

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in tribute and recognition of the Ukrainian American Youth Association (UAYA), as they celebrate their 80th Anniversary as a world wide youth organization. In northeast Ohio, the UAYA is celebrating the 40th Anniversary of the establishment of the UAYA Campgrounds in Huntington, Ohio.

For more than a century, Americans of Ukrainian heritage have infused the richness of Ukrainian heritage throughout our Greater Cleveland community. Their significant contributions within all facets of our society, along with their collective focus on preserving and promoting the history of the Ukraine, is enhanced with every new generation of Americans of Ukrainian heritage.

The leaders and members of the UAYA provide vital opportunities for American youth of Ukrainian descent to attain a true understanding of the history, faith, culture of the Ukraine. The UAYA also provides vital cultural opportunities for young people to become active and lasting members of their local Ukrainian community—a community centered around family, faith and tradition.

Mr. Speaker and colleagues, please join me in honor of the Ukrainian American Youth Association, as leaders and members celebrate the vital and ongoing legacy of teaching, preserving and sharing memories, customs and culture of their beloved Ukraine. Through the efforts of the UAYA, the heart of the Ukraine transcends borders, oceans and time, and lives on within each new generation of children of Ukrainian heritage—in Cleveland, Ohio, and around the world.

MANKATO, MINNESOTA RECOGNIZED AS ONE OF THE “100 BEST COMMUNITIES FOR YOUNG PEOPLE”

HON. GIL GUTKNECHT

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 8, 2005

Mr. GUTKNECHT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the city of Mankato, Minnesota, for being a great place to live and grow up.

On Nov. 1, the city of Mankato was recognized as one of the “100 Best Communities” for Young People by America’s Promise, an organization founded by former Secretary of State Colin Powell. At the awards ceremony in Washington, DC, Mankato also received a special award for its outreach efforts to Gulf Coast residents.

Located on the beautiful Minnesota River in the heart of Blue Earth County, Mankato is a great place to live. But as America’s Promise has recognized, Mankato is also a great place for young people. Boasting one of the lowest high school dropout rates among the Nation’s

small cities, Mankato remains committed to education and family values.

In particular, I would like to recognize the parents and teachers of the city who devote their time to Mankato’s youth. I would also like to commend Kathy Brynaert, Independent School District #77 School Board Chair and Anna Thill of the Mankato Area United Way who attended the awards ceremony and accepted the honor on behalf of the city.

In addition to the award for being one of the “100 Best Communities for Young People,” Mankato was also recognized for its work in aiding communities devastated by recent hurricanes. Red Cross volunteers and professionals from Mankato immediately responded to the tragedy of Hurricane Katrina by traveling to the Gulf Coast to lend a helping hand. Meanwhile, back in Mankato, community residents and local organizations rallied to collect money and supplies for hurricane victims. Local students designed cards offering their love and support that were delivered to children there.

I hope my colleagues will join me in honoring and congratulating these outstanding Americans.

TRIBUTE TO ROBERT SARGENT
SHRIVER

HON. CHRIS VAN HOLLEN

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 8, 2005

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I rise to honor Sargent Shriver on his 90th birthday today. It is fitting that we take this wonderful occasion to reflect on his life of service to our country.

Martin Luther King once said, “Everyone can be great because everyone can serve.” Sargent Shriver embodies this ideal. A man of stellar character and tireless energy, Ambassador Shriver has been long recognized as a true humanitarian and a dedicated public servant.

Ambassador Shriver received his bachelor’s degree from Yale University in 1938. He also attended Yale Law School where he earned an L.L.B. in 1941. Shriver began his lifelong commitment to public service in the United States Navy during World War II.

In 1961, Mr. Shriver answered the call of duty again when, at the request of President John F. Kennedy, he established and became Director of the Peace Corps. He helped organize operations around the world, from Africa and Asia to Latin America. Under his steadfast leadership, the Peace Corps provided medical, educational and technical assistance to foreign communities, while giving millions of Americans the opportunity to share our culture and values and democratic way of life with those less fortunate. Shriver’s service to our country took a diplomatic turn when he served as our Ambassador to France from 1968 to 1970.

Through his commitment to turning his ideals into reality, Sargent Shriver has inspired generations of young people to work to improve the lives of others through public service. As Director of the Peace Corps, Ambassador Shriver once stated, “I say what our nation needs now is a call to peace and service—peace and service on a scale we have scarcely begun to imagine.” These words still

ring as true today as they did when they were first spoken.

While Ambassador Shriver is best known as the Founding Father of the Peace Corps, he has also been instrumental in the creation of many other programs which have the goal of helping Americans to better their lives. Among those programs are Head Start, Job Corps, Legal Services, Upward Bound, Community Action, Foster Grandparents, and the Special Olympics.

In 1994, President Clinton recognized Ambassador Shriver’s extraordinary commitment to public service by awarding him the nation’s highest civilian honor, the Presidential Medal of Freedom.

Mr. Speaker, I applaud Sargent Shriver’s accomplishments and his undying commitment to humanitarian efforts and I wish him well on his birthday and in the years to come. Happy Birthday, Sargent Shriver. We salute you!

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. CHARLIE NORWOOD

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 8, 2005

Mr. NORWOOD. Mr. Speaker, though I was absent during the legislative week of Tuesday, November 1 through Friday, November 4, 2005 and Monday, November 7, 2005 for medical reasons, I wish to have my intended votes recorded in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD for the following votes:

November 1, 2005:

Rollcall vote 557 on H.R. 3548—“aye”; and Rollcall vote 558 on H.R. 3989—“aye”.

November 2, 2005:

Rollcall vote 559 on H.R. 1606—“aye”; Rollcall vote 560 on H.R. 4061—“aye”; and Rollcall vote 561 on H.R. 1691—“aye”.

November 3, 2005:

Rollcall vote 562 Appealing the Ruling of the Chair concerning the Iraq War Investigation—“aye”; Rollcall vote 563 on H. Res. 527—“aye”; Rollcall vote 564 on Amendment numbered 2 in House Report 109–266—“nay”; Rollcall vote 565 on Amendment numbered 5 in House Report 109–266—“nay”; Rollcall vote 566 on Amendment numbered 6 in House Report 109–266—“nay”; Rollcall vote 567 on Amendment numbered 11 in House Report 109–266—“nay”; and Rollcall vote 568 on H.R. 4128—“aye”.

November 4, 2005:

Rollcall vote 569 on H.R. 3057—“nay”.

November 7, 2005:

Rollcall vote 570 on H. Con. Res. 260—“aye”; Rollcall vote 571 on H.R. 1973—“nay”; and Rollcall vote 572 on H. Res. 444—“aye”.

IN RECOGNITION OF MS.

KATHLEEN TURNER

HON. RICK RENZI

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 8, 2005

Mr. RENZI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to offer congratulations and recognition to Ms. Kathleen Turner as she completes her tour of duty

as the Chief, Office for Congressional Affairs at the Defense Intelligence Agency. In her current duties, she is responsible for all DIA interaction with the U.S. Congress and serves as the senior advisor on legislative matters to the Director and General Defense Intelligence Program Manager.

Ms. Turner is an alumnus of the Armed Forces Staff College, the Council for Excellence in Government Fellow Program and the DCI's Intelligence Fellows Program. Ms. Turner has held intelligence and management positions of increasing responsibility and importance within DIA. She began her professional career in DIA in 1981 as an analyst of Soviet Strategic Forces in the Research Directorate, joined the Senior Executive Service in 1990, culminating in her current position as the Director for Congressional Affairs, where she serves as the senior advisor on legislative matters to the Director of DIA and General Defense Intelligence Program Manager. During her 24 year career at DIA, Ms. Turner has been awarded the DIA Director's Award for Exceptional Civilian Service and the Presidential Rank of Meritorious Executive.

Fortunately for the Congress, Ms. Turner is not going far. She has accepted the position of Deputy Director, Legislative Affairs to the Office of the Director of National Intelligence where she will serve as a trusted and valuable congressional advisor to Ambassador Negroponte.

Mr. Speaker, Ms. Turner has already enjoyed a long and luminous career in intelligence, and as she moves on to the DNI staff, I hope all my colleagues will recognize the extraordinary contributions Ms. Kathleen Turner has made to our National Security as a life-long professional intelligence officer. Finally, Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in expressing our confidence in her continued ability and willingness to serve the Nation . . . Ms. Turner is a true national asset in the intelligence business.

HONORING THE FELICIAN SISTERS ON THEIR 150TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. THADDEUS G. McCOTTER

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 8, 2005

Mr. McCOTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge and honor the Felician Sisters of the Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary Province, as they celebrate the 150th Anniversary of the Foundation of the Congregation of the Sisters of St. Felix of Cantalice.

On November 21, 1855, in Warsaw, Poland, Blessed Mary Angela, who was formerly Sophia Truszkowska, and her cousin Clothilde Ciechanowska, solemnly dedicated themselves to do the will of Jesus Christ in all things. Hereafter, the Felician Sisters were dedicated to a ministry of healing and service, based on Mary Angela's mission of "responding to the needs of the times."

Currently, the Felician Sisters number 1,966 members who share the charisma of their foundress, Blessed Mary Angela, in 11 countries on the continents of Africa, Europe, North and South America. In my hometown of Livonia, alone, the Felician Sisters have founded St. Mary-Mercy Hospital, Madonna University, Ladywood High School, and Angela Hospice.

St. Mary-Mercy Hospital was founded by the Felician Sisters in 1959. The Hospital has grown in its commitment to the community and in excellence in clinical care and services. This year St. Mary-Mercy Hospital placed in the top five percent nationally for clinical excellence, and in the top two percent nationally for patient safety. These awards are well deserved recognition for the Felician Sisters, physicians, nurses and support staff of the hospital.

Madonna University was founded by the Felician Sisters in 1937 and is one of the largest Catholic Franciscan independent universities in the country. Through undergraduate, graduate, and continuing professional study, Madonna University provides men and women with the opportunities for intellectual, spiritual and personal growth.

Ladywood High School is sponsored by the Felician Sisters and also follows the Franciscan tradition. The school aims to educate young women in the attainment of Catholic values, human potential, and the ability to put faith and knowledge into fruitful action.

Angela Hospice, founded in 1985, has been providing care for those of every age and stage of life that may need it. Angela provides care to individuals at home or in a care facility in Livonia, as well as support and counseling for family members. Recently, Angela Hospice launched the "Angela House Call" program to provide home physician visits for the elderly—another example of the commitment by the Felician Sisters to our community.

Mr. Speaker, in the spirit of Mary Angela I ask my colleagues to join me in commending and applauding the 150th Anniversary of the founding of the Felician Sisters and praise their ministry of healing and service, and their efforts to maintain the utmost respect for every human life.

IN HONOR OF ALL UNITED STATES VETERANS AND HOLLY LANE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL OF WESTLAKE, OHIO

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 8, 2005

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor and recognition of all veterans of the 10th Congressional District of Ohio—for their service, bravery and dedication on behalf of our country. Most significantly, we stand in tribute and remembrance of those veterans who have made the ultimate sacrifice when they answered the call to duty.

I also stand in honor and recognition of the children and educators of Holly Lane Elementary School. By allowing our students the opportunity to meet and know our veterans, we are presenting them living examples of real heroes. We are giving them a true understanding of the meaning of the words conviction, courage and selflessness. We are offering them the understanding of a living lesson that speaks to our American history and to the preservation of our liberty—the brave men and women who have endured great hardship and sacrifice in order to secure freedom for us all.

Every veteran that stands before us today at Holly Lane Elementary School represents the heart and soul of America and reminds us of

our quest for justice and peace here at home, and the struggle of those who seek justice and peace around the world. The staff and students of Holly Lane Elementary School reflect the gratitude and respect for our men and women in the armed forces, sentiments that are shared by all Americans. The students of Holly Lane Elementary School also reflect a vision of hope for our future.

Mr. Speaker and colleagues, please join me in honor, tribute and gratitude to the men and women of our armed forces, past and present. They reflect the quest and struggle for human rights and freedom from oppression, basic human elements that unify us all. Let us forever remember and honor their honorable service, great sacrifice and unwavering sense of commitment to the preservation of our American democracy.

HONORING EMPLOYERS OF NA- TIONAL GUARDSMEN AND RE- SERVISTS

HON. GIL GUTKNECHT

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 8, 2005

Mr. GUTKNECHT. Mr. Speaker, I share my strong support for H. Res. 302, honoring the employers of National Guardsmen and Reservists who have been called to active duty.

Today, 1.3 million Americans serve in the Guard and Reserve, representing nearly half of our total military force.

Since Sept. 11, 2001, Minnesota National Guard members have served on active duty supporting operations in more than 30 countries around the world. This fall, 2,600 Guard members from the 34th Infantry Division's 1st Brigade Combat Team were activated for service in Iraq.

Their 18-month mission will take them away from family and friends, their careers and their everyday lives. They will miss birthdays and anniversaries, holidays and school plays, a baby's first steps and home-cooked meals. However, these soldiers could not perform their mission without the support of their civilian employers.

In 1972, President Nixon established the National Committee for Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve (ESGR). In Minnesota, there are 140 ESGR volunteers who promote the value of Guard and Reserve employees.

Last year, the State of Minnesota received the Defense Secretary's Employer Support Freedom Award for its programs supporting activated service members. The State, for example, makes up the difference between a reservist's active-duty pay and his or her State salary.

The Minnesota Timberwolves organization are another outstanding example of a business that supports the Guard and Reserve. In 2004, the Timberwolves received the ESGR's "Outstanding Corporate Citizen Award." This year, the Timberwolves are hosting a "Salute to the Armed Forces" event at the Target Center on Nov. 9. The team donated more than 1,200 tickets for the month of November so military personnel can attend a game.

Support of the Guard and Reserve also takes place at the local level. This year, the New Ulm Police Department and Immanuel St.

Joseph Hospital in Mankato, received "Above and Beyond" awards for their ongoing support of reserve employees. More than 475 Minnesota employers were nominated for this national award. Only 23 received this prestigious award.

Mr. Speaker, one of America's great strengths is the unselfish courage of the citizen who steps forward, puts on the uniform and stands ready to face danger. It is that quality, more than any other, which has kept us free for more than 200 years.

We must commend the tens of thousands of American businesses who willingly employ members of the National Guard and Reserve. It is this essential alliance and shared sacrifice that keeps America and much of the world free.

TRIBUTE TO CHARLIE MAE CROMARTIE

HON. JAMES E. CLYBURN

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 8, 2005

Mr. CLYBURN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a guiding light in Columbia, South Carolina that will be deeply missed. Charlie Mae Mays Harrison Cromartie passed away on Sunday, November 6, 2005, but her legacy will remain with us forever.

Charlie Mae Cromartie was born in Greenwood County, South Carolina to John Henry and Myrtle Harrison Mays. She was the niece of renowned educator, Dr. Benjamin E. Mays. She was educated at Bettis Academy and earned her RN degree with a concentration in psychiatric nursing from South Carolina State Hospital and the Columbia Hospital School of Nursing. She served as Head Evening Nurse at the Columbia Hospital School from 1961 to 1970, and was the owner and manager of Cromartie Enterprises from 1977 to 1996.

In addition to her very successful career, Mrs. Cromartie was also active in her community and church. She was the Mother of the Church at Bishops' Memorial A.M.E. Church, where she had been a member for more than 50 years. Mrs. Cromartie had served as the church Treasurer for more than 40 years and was a member of the Trustee Board, Missionary Society, and the Building Fund.

In the community, Mrs. Cromartie served as a poll manager in Ward 9 at Allen-Benedict Court for many years. She had served as PTA President at Waverly Elementary, Carver Elementary, W.A. Perry Middle and C.A. Johnson High schools. She was also a school advocate for the Richland County Board of Education. Her other memberships included the March of Dimes, the League of Women Voters, and she was Past Illustrious Commandress of Daughters of Isis, Cairo Temple #125.

Mrs. Cromartie had been recognized for her community work with a key to the City of Columbia and induction into the South Carolina Black Hall of Fame in 2003. In 1987, Columbia Mayor Patton Adams chose Mrs. Cromartie as one of several Columbians to be sketched for a picture presented to Pope John Paul II during his visit to Columbia that now hangs in the Vatican.

Mrs. Cromartie was married to E. W. Cromartie, Sr. for 43 years. The couple has two children, E. W. Cromartie, III and Ernestine Cromartie Moody, and four grandchildren.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you and my colleagues to join me in celebrating the life of a devoted wife, mother, Christian and community activist. Charlie Mae Cromartie made a lasting impression on the City of Columbia and all those who had the pleasure of knowing her.

SPECIAL TRIBUTE TO FRED V. MUNOZ AND HIS LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENTS

HON. JOHN T. SALAZAR

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 8, 2005

Mr. SALAZAR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to express my condolences to the Munoz family of Delta, Colorado, who recently experienced a tragic loss with the death of Fred V. Munoz. He passed away on October 7th at the age of 63.

Though Fred spent his childhood and was educated in California, he was not only a valued citizen of my district, but a dear friend as well. He served in the Army during the Vietnam War, and I honor him for his service. Furthermore, he was an exceptional leader in the Hispanic community, and served as president of the Orange County Trial Lawyers Association. His extraordinary achievements as a lawyer also included sitting as a member of the California Bar Association and serving on the board of the Hispanic Bar Association.

I grew to know Fred over the last year and he never hesitated to offer his support and assistance to myself and others. He had said he would always be ready to step up and do what he could in the years ahead, and though he may no longer be with us in physical presence, I have no doubt he will keep his word and join us in spirit.

Fred was certainly an inspiration to me and to everyone who had the opportunity to meet him, and I am grateful for the short amount of time I was able to spend with him. I know my life and the lives of those he knew and loved were enriched by his presence, and he will surely be missed.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO HARRY HANCOCK

HON. SPENCER BACHUS

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 8, 2005

Mr. BACHUS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a very special member of the Birmingham community, Harry Hancock.

Harry Hancock has provided compassionate and caring service as the District Manager of the Birmingham Downtown Social Security office for many years. For over a quarter century, Harry has given of his time to ensure that his fellow Americans are treated fairly in their attempts to access Social Security benefits. However, Harry's time with the Social Security Administration is but one aspect of a lifetime devoted to public service, which began with Harry's courageous service as a member of the United States Army during the Vietnam War.

Mr. Speaker, I am honored to bring Harry Hancock's career of service to the attention of

my colleagues here today. I join with the residents of the entire 6th Congressional District of Alabama in congratulating Harry Hancock as he retires from federal service. I wish Harry and his wife Rene nothing but happiness in the days ahead.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. PAUL RYAN

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 8, 2005

Mr. RYAN of Wisconsin. Mr. Speaker, I was absent for legislative business on Friday, November 4, 2005 and Monday, November 7, 2005 due to a family medical emergency. As a result, I missed rollcall votes 569 through 572. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on the following rollcall votes:

569, Adoption of Conference Report H.R. 3057; 570, H. Con. Res. 260, Recognizing the 40th anniversary of the Second Vatican Council's Declaration on the Relation of the Church to Non-Christian Religions; 571, H.R. 1973, the Water for the Poor Act of 2005; 572, H. Res. 444, the Gynecological Resolution for Advancement of Ovarian Cancer Education.

THE TRUTH ABOUT THE WAR IN IRAQ

SPEECH OF

HON. DAVID DREIER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 3, 2005

Mr. DREIER. Mr. Speaker, our men and women in the military continue to make our nation very proud. We are forever grateful for their sacrifice as they protect our precious freedoms and encourage the rise of democracy in the heart of the Middle East. We honor their dedication and admire their resolve under such difficult circumstances.

Because of the valor of our troops, there is cause for great optimism in Iraq. On October 15th, nearly 10 million Iraqis traded bullets for ballots and voted on their draft constitution. The constitution was approved by an overwhelming 79 percent. This is a remarkable feat and an important milestone on Iraq's path toward democracy. The next step is a December 15th vote for the first government under the new constitution.

After the constitutional vote, the Washington Post quoted a 53-year-old Iraqi shoe salesman who said: "[Before], no one showed us the draft of a constitution. None of them. This is the first time. Since the days of the monarchy until now, this is the first government willing to put the constitution before its people."

Another Iraqi, who planned to mark his ballot with his own blood, said this about voting for the constitution: "It will bring all that is good for the people, such as stability, democracy and peace. With such a charter, we will show the world that we are a civilized nation, not a bunch of . . . bloodthirsty extremists."

The election day itself was a resounding success. Violence was minimal and did not affect voting at the more than 6,000 polling places. Nearly 200,000 Iraqi security forces

took an active and lead role in ensuring the safety of their fellow citizens on the day of the vote. For Iraqis, this was truly a national effort to determine the future of their nation.

The increasingly Iraqi-dominated security operations are a huge boost in our efforts to defeat the terrorists. After a recent trip to Iraq, Retired Army Major General Robert Scales commented: "[The Iraqi forces] are better able to gather intelligence. They can spot insurgents by their body language and by how they act and the language they use."

The Iraqi security forces are gaining the trust and respect of the Iraqi people. In fact, the number of tips to security forces rose from 442 in February to over 3,000 in August. The increasing capability of the Iraqi security forces is essential to our strategy for victory.

Mr. Speaker, the trial of Saddam Hussein is yet another very positive development. This is a trial by Iraqis, for Iraqis—and for justice long denied to the victims who suffered under his murderous rule. The Iraqi Special Tribunal operates under Iraqi law and shows the solid foundation being built for law and order in Iraq.

There has also been significant progress resulting from U.S. and Iraqi reconstruction efforts. Unfortunately, these signs that point to a revived society, economy and culture have not received much attention. Consider this:

There were no independent newspapers or magazines in Saddam Hussein's Iraq—today there are more than 100; before the war, there were no cell phone subscribers—today there are over 3.5 million; over 3,400 schools have been renovated; local governments are conducting town hall meetings; the Baghdad real estate market is booming; and, the court system is coming to life—Iraqi judges have conducted 387 trials since 2003.

There remain terrorists committed to derailing democracy in Iraq. But Iraqis have already experienced the conditions that terrorists seek. They are conditions of hopelessness, violence, intolerance and repression. As we saw by the constitutional vote, nearly all Iraqis reject this dark existence.

Mr. Speaker, we know that more tough days lie ahead for the American military. Their mission is dangerous, but their cause is just. And because of their courage and sacrifice, they are making significant progress toward supporting a free and democratic Iraq. This is great news for the people of Iraq—and great news for our own national security.

TRIBUTE TO ROSA PARKS

HON. MARCY KAPTUR

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 8, 2005

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, this past week, America laid to rest Ms. Rosa Parks, pre-eminent civil rights leader of the 20th century. Ms. Parks embodied the clarion call of Sojourner Truth to champion the rights of those dispossessed and marginalized. Through her acts of courage and inspiration, she, as woman, awakened the conscience of a nation and moved us to be better than we had been, indeed to form a more perfect union. In her memory, a homegoing memorial service was held in Detroit, Michigan, her adopted hometown, on Nov. 2, during which the Reverend

Jesse Jackson, Sr. of the Rainbow/PUSH Coalition, rendered these words of comfort. It is my privilege to enter them in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD as a living testimony to her life and the world and nation she helped transform.

ROSA PARKS: WORDS OF COMFORT

We are here this morning for serious business. On so many occasions, negroes have been intimidated and humiliated and oppressed because of the sheer fact that they were negroes. Just the other day, just last Thursday to be exact, one of the finest citizens in Montgomery—not one of the finest negro citizens, but one of the finest citizens in Montgomery—was taken from a bus and carried to jail and arrested because she refused to get up to give her seat to a white person.

When the history books are written in the future, somebody will have to say, "There lived a race of people—, a black people, a people who had the moral courage to stand up for their rights!"—Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., Montgomery, Alabama, December 1955

ROSA PARKS: FREEDOM FIGHTER—LIBERATOR

The Book of Esther. Chapter IV, Verses 12-16:

12: And they told to Mordecai Esther's words.

13: Then Mordecai commanded to answer Esther, Think not with thyself that thou shalt escape in the king's house, more than all the Jews.

14: For if thou altogether holdest thy peace at this time, then shall their enlargement and deliverance arise to the Jews from another place; but thou in thy father's house shall be destroyed: and who knoweth whether thou art come to the kingdom for such a time as this?

15: Then Esther bade them return Mordecai this answer.

16: Go, gather together all the Jews that are present in Shushan, and fast ye for me, and neither eat nor drink for three days, night or day: I and also my maidens will fast likewise; and so will I go in unto the king, which is not according to the law: and if I perish, I perish.

Isaiah, 40 chapter, 31st verse, "but they shall wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength; they will mount up with wings like eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk and not faint."

The 2005 freedom bound train is full of giants. John Johnson, Johnson Publishing, who illuminated our way. Vivian Malone Jones who opened up closed doors at the University of Alabama; C. Delores Tucker, first African American Secretary of State of Pennsylvania, a pacesetter. Judge Constance Baker Motley along with justice Thurgood helped to brake backbone of legal segregation. And now Rosa Parks, our morning star, the star that led us by night; when it's real dark, one light will challenge all of the darkness, and give us hope and direction.

For such an awesome force in history, we wrestle with the countless ways, "how do we express ourselves, our thanks, her meaning, her impact.

The question was once raised in Micah, how do you worship? Do you give the Lord fatted calves and rams and rivers of oil? Meaningless sacrifices. The answer was, "O man, you know what is good; you know what matters. Do justice, and to love mercy, and to walk humbly with your God?"

Perhaps for Sister Parks, a statue in the great Hall of Congress as projected in a legislative bill by Congressman Jackson, as a founding mother of the new America. Surely if Jefferson Davis and Robert E. Lee, leaders of the Confederacy who led the drive for se-

cession, sedition, segregation and slavery and treason, could be there, why not have the guardian angel there to keep an eye on them, and to protect the true character of the American Dream.

Perhaps the extension of the voting rights with enforcement powers, 50 years later.

Perhaps a White House conference on civil rights. 50 years later—post Rosa Parks and hurricane Katrina, a White House conference on civil rights is needed. We must say to Mrs. Parks, your legacy is secure, your sacrifice is not in vain, but your work is unfinished and under attack. You lifted us up; we will not let you down.

We often reference her qualifications for this huge role in history—her vocation as a seamstress, her civil rights membership, her humility and temperament. But her biggest quality is she was available.

One of the outstanding attributes of Mrs. Parks is that she was available. Her humility, her steeled courage, her non-negotiable dignity, speaks to us in the fullness of time, after 336 years of struggle—from the hull of ships to the back of the bus—in the fullness of time, she said, here am I, send me. I am available.

God uses the strength of the available. He is not bound by the credentialed and the unavailable. Each time I go back across the bloodstained Edmund Pettus bridge in Selma, Alabama—the battlefield of our modern day voting rights act—I recall the struggle led by Hosea Williams, a shot up war veteran, and Congressman John Lewis, a student, on that Sunday. There were no pastors of major churches, no convention presidents, no bishops, no doctors or lawyers, no political party leaders, no scholars, no elected officials, judges or business leaders. Just ordinary people.

Mrs. Boynton, Mrs. Foster, Sunshine, Lester Hankerson, Cottonreader from Mississippi. Ordinary people, available to do God's will. Ordinary people.

They upended the Congress, the White House, and the world. They captured the imagination of the world by absorbing the blows and suffering us into a new day. Your success and reputation and status are not bargaining chips with God.

Calvary teaches, suffering breeds character, character breeds faith, and in the end, faith will prevail.

Who are the available?

(a) It may be some teenage boy, a great underdog with a slingshot, taking on some giant Goliath. He emerges the winner, an unlikely hero. He was available.

(b) It may be some rescued baby, Moses, avoiding a death warrant by the King, an edict of genocide, aided by some ingenious prayer warrior mother, who grew up in the King's household but comes unto his highest self and says. "Let My People Go."

(c) It may be some Esther, some orphan, after prodding by her uncle, moving beyond the political law and risking personal comfort for the common good, who rises up realizing her people are in jeopardy, declaring if I perish, let me perish. I am going to meet the King. God uses the available.

(d) It may be some freedom fighting seamstress, unarmed without guns or bullets, but with a breastplate of righteousness in the heart of the confederacy which says "Like a Tree Planted by the Rivers of Water, I Will Not be Moved."

I will defy the unjust state law that defies federal law. You may fire me, you may jail me, and you may kill me. But like Esther, if I perish, let me perish. Enough is enough!

If you need somebody, I am available. Here am I, send me.

Rosa Parks: It is not her passing, but in her living, the timeliness of her actions, that bring us here today. It has captured the attention of the world.

I was in South Africa meeting with President Mandela last week when the news broke. He acknowledged her impact and sends his condolences. Apartheid ended in 1954 in North America. And in South Africa in 1994. He understands the connections.

An NAACP freedom fighter, she offered her body as a living sacrifice. She embodied the hope, the longing and the anguish of three centuries of prayers. Her light in darkness illuminated the path of the majestic leadership of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Together they were part of a team. A season. That changed the course of America and world history for the better. Ms. Parks was in the historical rocking chair between the legal triumphs of Thurgood Marshall and the prophetic utterance of Dr. King.

It is our burden to put her in context of our struggle. And not allow wolves in sheep's clothing to mis-interpret her legacy, or our struggle.

So when children ask of us, who was Rosa Parks? We shall tell them how she helped get us across the rough waters.

Why was she arrested? Is it relevant today? Or is this some sentimental journey that we are on, with all of these services and celebrations.

She was arrested for defying State's rights laws—segregation—a hangover from the Confederacy. The South would not honor the dream of a more perfect union. And the red states still resist.

The relevance of her living legacy is no sentimental journey.

So today, as the courts are stacked with States' rights judges, and New Orleans' people float face down in the waters, and civil rights are suspended, prevailing wages suspended, affirmative action suspended, environmental laws suspended, veterans preferences suspended . . .

As FEMA will not give the addresses of the people exiled in 41 states. The addresses that will allow the State Board of Elections to communicate with them so they might vote in February. New Orleans is being de-populated with its people stranded in exile. While Louisiana is being demographically re-configured.

Is this struggle relevant today or is this service a sentimental journey?

For our sister beloved Rosa, we must adore, admire and love her. But we must not romanticize her mission. Hers is an act of defiance, challenging the prevailing right wing political, legal and religious order. She challenged state's rights in the heart of the Confederacy.

Her mission was to even the playing field, to afford all Americans equal protection under the law, to gain and defend civil rights—she sought a more perfect union.

Many of her former adversaries have changed stripes or parties, but not their anti-civil rights, anti-labor, anti-gender equality, and anti-poor agenda.

To be on her freedom train requires the courage and the vision to defy unjust law, take the risk and live with the consequences.

After 58 years of legal racist segregationist apartheid law, upon continuous charges by the NAACP, led by Thurgood Marshall, Constance Baker Motley, Charles Hamilton Houston, Dr. John Hope Franklin, Dr. Kenneth Clark, the court reversed itself from the 1896 apartheid decision which succeeded slavery.

May 17, 1954 was the biggest legal victory we had known since the abolishment of slavery in 1865 and the broken promises of 1877 and the end of reconstruction. But it had no immediate impact on the ground. States continued to defy the law and vilify the court as legislating and engineering change and of not being "strict conservative constructionists."

Racial segregation remained in our schools, transportation, trains, public housing, work place, voting. We lived without the umbrella of protection of the law.

Emmett Till was lynched, August 28, 1955, (eight years to the day before the March on Washington, 1963). The lynch mob was not prosecuted and the FBI did not investigate.

His mother brought his bloodied, watermarked body back to Chicago. 100,000 people demonstrated passed his body . . . afterwards they were never the same.

Jet and the Black Press told his story. There was an emotional uprising.

I once asked Ms. Rosa Parks, why did she not go to the back of the bus, given the risks?

She said I thought about Emmett Till and I could not go back. She said, "My legs and feet were not tired, that is a stereotype, and I felt violated. I paid the same fare as others, I was not going back." She stood with Emmett Till's mother until the very end, reaffirming that kinship.

Her dominant feature was not that she was a seamstress; she was not arrested for sewing. She was a dignified, resisting freedom fighter. An NAACP officer at a time when the NAACP was banished from most parts of the south. Most teachers could not join and keep their jobs.

The states defied federal law, and she defied the state law. She took the test, paid the price and the law failed. She was arrested for defiant behavior. She went counter-culture. She resented the sign above the drivers head that read, "colored seat from the rear, whites from the front. Violators will be prosecuted."

She chose with resolve and courage to fearlessly face the option of being fired, jailed or killed to test the law, December 1, 1955.

An immediate after effect was the emergence of Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. A one year boycott, his house bombed—they were threatened. She won the legal case after 13 months. It took 10 years of testing to get from the back of the bus to the right to vote.

Sitting down, we hear over and over again was a simple act by a dignified woman. The act was simple, but the reaction was violent, relentless, led by the State. Arrests, loss of jobs, death threats. Governors blocking school doors, state terror. And the resistance of her challenge for a more perfect union is still under attack by the devotees of State's rights, undermining a more perfect union for all Americans.

It was the first of many courageous tests: 1957, Daisy Bates and the Little Rock Nine; the sit-in's of the 1960's; the assassination of Medgar Evers and others; the killing of Jimmie Lee Jackson that triggered the Selma March; the killings of Schwerner, Goodman and Chaney; The Birmingham bombings; the march from Selma to Montgomery to end the reign of legal state sponsored terror.

There was a long bloody road ahead after December 1, 1955. Of course, by extension today, abandoned cities, flourishing suburbs, second class schools and first class jails. Three strikes and you're out . . . even if you don't have a bat, rather than four balls and you're on, because we really intend to leave no child behind.

We, with a narrow view, say Rosa Parks would not get up and let the white man have her seat. It was not about "A" black woman, and "A" white man. It was a dilemma of all blacks and all whites. Victims of a system with all losers.

The white bus driver would not drive off, the white police arrested her, but they were all victims of racist, state's rights law as well. They were following the legal, political, religious edict of their day.

She was following the moral law. She chose Calvary over convenience.

The white rider, out of cultural expectation and the law, had a right to ask her to get up. The bus driver had a legal obligation to demand that she move, or the bus would go no further. The police had a legal obligation to arrest her.

Those men must now feel awful, and their children ashamed. History has condemned them. But their political leaders placed them there.

If they had not done their jobs, they would have lost their jobs, and if she had gotten up, she would have lost her dignity.

The legal changes of 64' and 65' allowed both to have dignity and decency.

Now Alabama and Auburn can play black and white together. We can choose uniform color over skin color in that game, because the new law protects our shared dignity.

Unfortunately 50 years later many still are trapped in the system that chooses racial insecurity and cultural identity over their economic interests and life options.

If Rosa Parks were not successful, blacks would have remained at the back of the bus and in a ditch. Southern whites would have remained in the ditch with us. No southerner could have gone to the White House from the south, because of the stigma, just as no white South African could leave South Africa without stigma.

Presidents Jimmy Carter, Bill Clinton and Vice President Gore, President Bush, all owe their presidencies to a new freed South, not hampered by racial stigma.

Her act helped to free the whole south.

Changing the laws and the culture did not take place automatically or inevitably. It took demonstrations, sacrifice and martyrs. But now with affirmative action and Pell Grant and no more political mileage for governors blocking school doors, we can sit in the front of buses, class rooms, live in a neighborhood of our choice.

Auburn could be number 1 last year. Alabama could be undefeated this year and not face the predicament that Bear Bryant faced playing USC and Nebraska without the best talent in the State, and being humiliated by Sam Cunningham of USC and Johnny Rogers of Nebraska.

Oh what a morning Rosa Parks ushered in. There are those who will honor her during this season, but who will seek to reverse the course she took and not enforce the laws for which she was arrested and struggled. She is their trophy but she is our morning star. Our 1955 liberation Christmas present. Oh what a morning this noble woman has helped to usher in.

This is a time to mourn and celebrate, where we must watch as well as pray. For those on the Rosa Parks, Medgar Evers, Schwerner, Goodman Chaney, A. Phillip Randolph, Constance Baker Motley, Cesar Chavez, Martin Luther King side of history, we must be a ware of wolves in sheep's clothing who try unrelentingly to defeat her purpose.

While we have gone from the back of the bus in Montgomery, burnished in our memory is the back of the rescue in New Orleans.

Like Esther, you counted the costs, took the risks and paid the price. But our God offered you a comfort level ultimately that defied your enemies and surpasses our understanding.

Sister Rosa, you are our eagle bird of hope, a gift sent from up above. Like the eagle—a bird of strength. and power and resolve—you looked in the noon day sun and didn't flinch. You looked at the little ones whose wings were less strong and not as long. You inspired us out of our fears, and allowed a re-birth of hope. You stirred your nest, and gave us comfort and protection. You showed us how to fly.

Fly fearlessly, no matter the weather. When we failed in our efforts, God allowed you to be close enough and live long enough to pick us up again.

We know we fall down sometimes. We got back up again. Again and again. Because you reminded us nothing is too hard for God. You showed us the power of right over might, the power of moral authority, the power stronger than guns and wealth, just by being available to do God's will.

You have been the wind beneath our wings. The Lord promised that they who wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings like eagles, they shall run and not be weary; they shall walk and not faint.

The writer promised this morning this great morning, one glad morning, we can fly away. You are faithful over a few things. Now He has called you up higher. Keep looking up to those stars, in their silver sockets of glory, to that place in the sky.

Now, Mother Eagle, God today has called you back to the big nest in the sky. This morning, Sweet Angel, take your rest, take your rest. Take your heavenly flight. You made your reservations. You prepaid your ticket. Now you can sit where you choose to sit. You have a reserved seat at the welcome table. When you get tired of sitting, you can just walk around heaven all day.

By the way, stop by and give Dr. King our highest regards. Tell Fannie Lou Hamer, howdy. Pluck those bullets out of Medgar Evers' back. Tell Emmett Till what he meant to you. Sit down with Daisy Bates.

Stop by and see Schwerner, Goodman and Chaney.

By the way, thank John Johnson for telling our story. Tell Mahalia. We are all moving up a little higher. And don't forget to tell Rev. C.L. Franklin thanks for teaching us how eagles stir their nests.

Make room for us. It won't be long now. We are too close to turn around now. We've wept bitter tears, but joy keeps coming. Sit where you want to now. There will be no arresting officers. No signs of disrespect. No more handcuffs. We thank you for your hope. We thank you for your healing. We thank you for being available. Good night, Sweet Angel. We will see you in the morning. You served us well. You've done God's will.

HEARING: THE NATIONAL PANDEMIC INFLUENZA PREPAREDNESS AND RESPONSE PLAN: IS THE U.S. READY FOR AVIAN FLU?

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 8, 2005

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, is the U.S. ready for avian flu? I don't think there is any question that answer is a clear "no." The question is, what are we doing about it? The administration finally released its plan this week under tremendous public pressure. It got underwhelming reviews from experts because it is deficient on several fronts that will be collectively necessary for us to fight this disease. It is especially weak on efforts to stockpile anti-virals.

Our best anti-viral bet will be Roche's Tamiflu. It is well established that it will take Roche years to produce enough to satisfy American stockpile needs. We have enough for less than 1% of the U.S. population. We need at least enough for 25% of the U.S. Even after promised increases in production capacity, Roche's supply is far less than our stockpile needs. The same goes for countries around the world, including those where the outbreak is likely to originate if the virus mutates to pass easily from human to human. And yet there are plenty of production facilities to solve the problem. In fact, over 100 companies have expressed interest in "helping (Roche) meet production challenges," according to one of Roche's own advertisements. So what is the problem?

The problem is that Roche has a monopoly on Tamiflu. We are very familiar with what happens when a company has a monopoly on a product the world needs. They control supply. And that is exactly what Roche is doing.

But choking world supply is not the only consequence of Roche's monopoly. If we need a reminder about the perils of concentrating production in the hands of a few, we only need to look to last year. Chiron was forced to scrap half of the U.S. flu vaccine supply when their manufacturing facility failed to meet safety standards. That was for the

conventional flu. Imagine what would happen if we lost half of our Tamiflu supply in the middle of an avian flu outbreak. And yet, at the cusp of a potentially far more devastating avian flu epidemic, we are about to repeat our mistake. But there is a solution. Compulsory licensing.

HHS has the authority to issue a compulsory license to get rid of this dangerous shortage by allowing other companies to make Tamiflu. Roche would get compensation. That authority exists specifically to prevent the most predictable scenario—a pharmaceutical company holding a drug hostage when it is needed to protect public health, in order to increase profits. That is exactly what we're seeing here.

Roche revenues increased 17% last quarter. Tamiflu sales more than doubled to \$215 million in three months. They expect to make almost \$1 billion from Tamiflu sales this year. Of course they would want to hang on to this monopoly. Their ultimate responsibility is to their shareholders, not to the public.

We have heard a lot of promises from Roche that they are willing to negotiate with other companies to sublicense production, but I have not heard anything about a firm agreement to do so. Roche can keep fees too high in order to make it unprofitable for an outside company to manufacture Tamiflu. They can stipulate, and have indicated their willingness to do so, that any Tamiflu made by a company other than Roche would not be available for sale in the U.S. In other words, they can continue to restrict world supply.

And to top it off, the administration boasts that it wants to throw a billion dollars into buying anti-virals. But the drugs aren't there. There's nothing to buy and, as it stands, there won't be anything to buy in the near future. We may not have that kind of time. But the administration is still sitting on its hands while Roche's profits skyrocket and Tamiflu production does not. This is a clear choice of profits over public health.

As you know, Secretary Leavitt, last month nine of my colleagues and I sent you a letter requesting compulsory licensing. We have given Roche plenty of time to act appropriately and they have failed to do so. In order to protect public health, we must issue a compulsory license for Tamiflu immediately.